

Serial No.: 10/823,766
Atty. Docket No.: P68778US1

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A bird feeder comprising:

a generally cylindrical housing and an integrally formed spiral divider made from a single extrusion, said housing having a top and a bottom, ~~a~~ and said spiral divider positioned vertically in said housing to divide said housing into at least two spiral compartments for holding bird seed, which compartments extend continuously from adjacent said housing top to adjacent said housing bottom;

a cover for said housing top; and

a base for said housing bottom having at least two vertically segregated feed chambers each with separate feed openings, said feed chambers defined by radially extending dividers formed within said base and separate from said housing, each feed chamber in said base communicating with one of said spiral compartments in said housing for seed to separately exit each said spiral compartment through a respective feed chamber and out its opening.

2. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 1, wherein said spiral divider divides said housing into three compartments and said base has three corresponding feed chambers.

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3. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 1, wherein said housing and said spiral divider are made of transparent plastic.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 1, wherein said ~~vertically segregated feed chambers are defined by~~ radially extending dividers are formed in a cylindrical coupler connected to said housing bottom, said radially extending dividers dividing said coupler into three vertically segregated, pie-shaped chambers.

6. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 5, wherein said coupler includes an upper end and a lower end and said base also includes a seed catcher attached to said lower end of the coupler to define a lowermost side of said feed openings.

7. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 6, wherein the upper end of said coupler is frictionally engaged with the bottom of said housing.

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8. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 7, wherein said coupler includes an exterior baffle adjacent its upper end which serves to protect birds feeding on said seed catcher.

9. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 6, wherein the lower end of said coupler includes downwardly depending elements with generally horizontally extending flanges which lockingly engage in corresponding slots of the seed catcher to retain said seed catcher in position underneath said coupler.

10. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 1, wherein said cover for said housing top includes a domed cap with an integral downwardly depending circular flange which removably engages said housing top.

11. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 1, wherein said housing, said spiral divider, said cover and said base are all made from plastic materials.

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12. (Currently Amended) A bird feeder comprising:

a generally cylindrical plastic housing with integrally formed divider portions that define ~~divided into~~ a plurality of spiral compartments which extend continuously from a top of said housing to a bottom of said housing;

a cap covering said top of the plastic housing;

a cylindrical coupler having an upper end frictionally engaged with said bottom of the plastic housing and having dividers therein separate from said housing divider portions which define vertically segregated coupler chambers each separately aligned with an exit of one of said plastic housing spiral compartments to direct seeds separately from each of said spiral compartments to an individual feed opening associated with each coupler chamber; and

a seed catcher connected to the lower end of said coupler on which birds may perch to eat seeds exiting from said coupler openings.

13. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, wherein said coupler dividers are generally vertical and equally spaced radially around said cylindrical coupler.

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14. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, wherein said seed catcher includes a dished area radially outward of said cylindrical coupler for catching bird food which exits from said openings.

15. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, wherein said seed catcher is connected to said coupler by depending flanges from said coupler inserted into corresponding slots in said seed catcher.

16. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, wherein said seed catcher includes an upstanding central hub adapted to receive a cylindrical mounting post for supporting said bird feeder.

17. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, further comprising a carrier for said bird feeder which extends above said cap and includes a component which extends through said cap and said plastic housing and is connected to said coupler or said seed catcher to hang said bird feeder for support.

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18. (Original) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, wherein said plastic housing is transparent.

19. (Currently Amended) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 12, wherein said plastic housing is divided by said divider portions into three spiral compartments and said coupler is divided by said dividers into ~~in~~ three segregated chambers.

20. (Currently Amended) The bird feeder in accordance with claim 14, wherein the seed catcher includes through openings to permit rainwater ~~or the like~~ to escape from said dished area.

21. (New) A bird feeder comprising:

a generally cylindrical plastic housing divided into a plurality of spiral compartments which extend continuously from a top of said housing to a bottom of said housing;

a cap covering said top of the plastic housing;

a cylindrical coupler having an upper end frictionally engaged with said bottom of the plastic housing and having dividers which define vertically segregated coupler chambers each separately aligned with an exit of one of said plastic housing spiral compartments to direct seeds separately from each of said

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spiral compartments to an individual feed opening associated with each coupler chamber;

a seed catcher connected to the lower end of said coupler on which birds may perch to eat seeds exiting from said coupler openings; and

a carrier for said bird feeder which extends above said cap and includes a component which extends through said cap and said plastic housing and is connected to said coupler or said seed catcher to hang said bird feeder for support.